

PIONEERS:

(Continued from Page 1)

has hauled many of those rocks to make a wall near his home.

One can see the monument from Cemetery Hill where grasses and brush hide the remains of what were once headstones. The limestone markers were at some time bashed to pieces and only nubs remain, some sticking out of the ground only a few inches. The names carved into the soft stone have long since worn away. Only a few etchings or designs remain.

It is likely the Johnsons used the knoll for their family burial ground. Indeed, it is easy to tell from the closeness of some of the stones that many babies or small children are buried there.

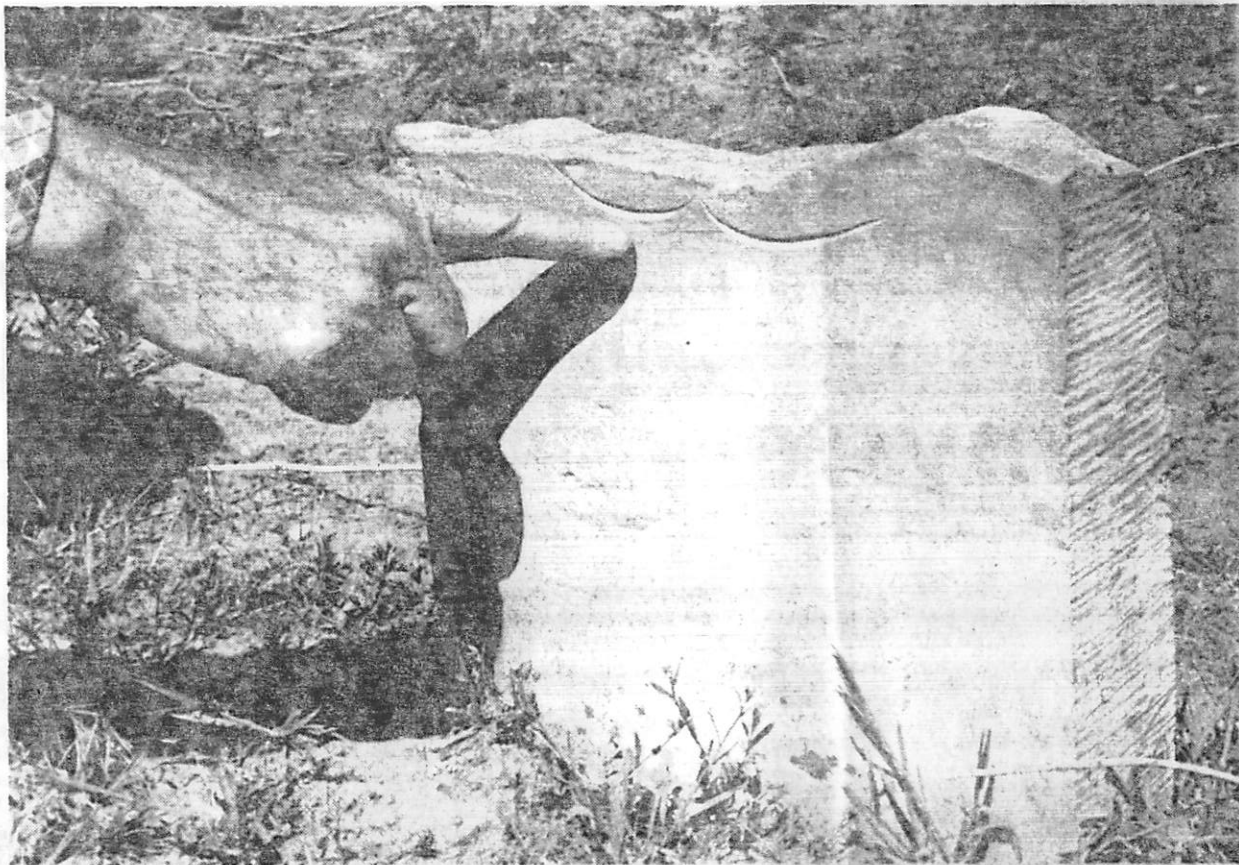
Saunders said, as the story goes, a few adults and even some Indians are buried there. The Johnson family, however, did not stay in the area, moving on to Mexico to help start the Mormon colony there. The land fell to other owners, the cemetery to disuse. There's no one left who remembers who is buried there. Cows now use the ground for grazing.

Saunders said he remembers another grave in a field to the west of Cemetery Hill. Owners of the land had fenced around the grave and its tall marker. He said he doesn't remember when or who did it but the grave was moved and the marker, too.

"I'm sure there's a lot that are unmarked and unknown," he said.

The observance of the first Memorial Day in 1866 is attributed to Waterloo, N.Y., where the dead of the Civil War were honored.

Far removed from that eastern town, the settlers of Utah were in the midst of the Indian War,



Dennis Patterson Photo

Who is buried beneath these headstones remains a mystery. Few signs of the graves remain.

fighting Black Hawk who Brigham Young called "the most formidable foe amongst the red-man."

Fifty one settlers were killed in the Indian War that lasted from April 1865 to 1867. Perhaps some of those are buried at Cemetery Hill, veterans of another American war.

Maxine Moore of Spring Lake, said her grandmother, Mary Pay,

"was Black Hawk's friend. In other words, she wasn't afraid of him."

Mrs. Pay had learned the Indian language and could talk to them. Shortly before Black Hawk died, he told Mrs. Pay he was dying because Brigham Young, the "big white father," had told him he would if he took the lives of the settlers.

Looking southeast from Ceme-

tary Hill, one can see the ravine high on the mountain where Black Hawk was believed to have been buried. He died in 1870 near Spring Lake and two of Benjamin Johnson's wives reported seeing Black Hawk's wives taking him to his burial ground, Mrs. Moore said.

Black Hawk's remains were later exhumed and moved to Salt Lake, Mrs. Moore said.